Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 19860 022054Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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P 021810Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8965

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: AODE

SUBJECT: MODE EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS BY CHIEF OF

MISSION:JTO

REF: ROME 19382

1. HAVING CAREFULLY REASSESSED THE FUNCTION AND MANNING LEVEL OF THE JOINT TRAVEL OFFICE WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE OFFICE SHOULD BE RETAINED IN ROME AT ITS PRESENT STAFFING COMPLEMENT OF ONE AMERICAN AND TWO ITALIAN EMPLOYEES. IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE JTO IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE BULK OF THAT OFFICE'S WORK IS RELATED TO FUNCTIONS PERFORMED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE U.S. FORCES AND THE ITALIAN FORCES. THE RIGHTS AND AUTHORITY GRANTED UNDER THESE AGREEMENTS ARE NOT IN OUR VIEW SUSCEPTIBLE TO TRANSFER TO CIVILIAN AGENTS OF THE EMBASSY. MOREOVER THE WORKLOAD OF THE JTO APPEARS TO BE SUCH THAT TO TRANSFER ITS FUNCTIONS TO OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION WOULD LIKELY REQUIRE A CONCOMITANT INCREMENT IN THE STAFFING OF THESE ELEMENTS.

2. AT PRESENT THE JTO IS TRI-SERVICE SUPPORTED AND REPORTS DIRECTLY TO THE 8TH LOG SUPPORT GROUP AT CAMP DARBY. HOWEVER, MUCH OF ITS RELATIONSHIP TO CAMP DARBY IS INFORMALLY MANAGED BY THE ODC. WE BELIEVE THAT FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUING MONITORING AND COORDINATION, THE JTO SHOULD BE MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLOSELY INTEGRATED INTO THIS MISSION. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES AN OBJECTION, WE PROPOSE THAT THE JTO'S RELATIONSHIP TO ITS COMMAND BE ALTERED TO MAKE IT RESPONSIBLE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO AN ELEMENT OF THIS MISSION. WE CONSIDER TWO POSSIBILITIES, IN DESCENDING ORDER OF DESIRABILITY:

A. JTO TO HAVE A MORE DIRECT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ODC,

EITHER AS A SUB-UNIT OF THE ODC (ASSUMING THAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP IS POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT ODC MANNING CONSTRAINTS) OR REPORTING FORMALLY TO THE CHIEF ODC.

B. JTO TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE EMBASSY'S TRANSPORTATION OFFICE REPORTING TO THE GENERAL SERVICES OR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. (THERE MAY BE REGULATORY OR MODE CONSTRAINTS TO PREVENT THIS, BUT IT IS WORTH LOOKING INTO.)

IN EITHER CASE, WE WOULD FORESEE JTO ASSUMING RESIDUAL TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CURRENTLY BEING PERFORMED BY DAO'S ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SECTION (SEE SEPARATE MODE TELEGRAM CONCERNING DAO).

3. THERE MAY WELL BE FURTHER PERMUTATIONS OF A NEW ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE NOT TNOUGHT OF. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE BEFORE PROCEEDING TO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE JTO'S CHAIN OF COMMAND. GARDNER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER STANDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM S/S.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: n/a

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME19860
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770448-0243

Format: TEL From: ROME

Handling Restrictions:

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771299/aaaadgib.tel

Line Count: 83 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 0cc7d70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SS

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: 77 ROME 19382

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 378803 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MODE EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL LEVELS BY CHIEF OF MISSION:JTO

TAGS: AODE To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0cc7d70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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